



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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TWO MEN CONVICTED OF CONSPIRACY TO COMMIT ARMED BANK ROBBERY

PHOENIX - The U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Arizona announced that on June 22, 2005, Jonathan Hunter of Los Angeles, California and Derrick McCreary of Tempe, Arizona, were found guilty of one count of Conspiracy, two counts armed bank robbery and two counts using, carrying, and brandishing a firearm in commission of a crime of violence, by a federal jury in Phoenix.

The evidence at trial showed that Defendants Hunter and McCreary organized the armed robbery of the Tempe Schools Federal Credit Union on January 22, 2002 and the Safeway Federal Credit Union on February 28, 2002. Defendant Hunter recruited other men in the Los Angeles area to travel to Tempe, Arizona to participate in the robberies. Defendant McCreary chose the credit unions for the robberies. Defendant Hunter brought the recruited men to Defendant McCreary's apartment in Tempe, Arizona. Once at the apartment, Defendants Hunter and McCreary stole a vehicle to use during the robberies. Defendants Hunter and McCreary organized the plan for the robberies and explained the plan to the recruited men. During both of the robberies three men entered the bank. One of the men had a handgun and ordered everyone to the ground. The man with the gun and one other robber leaped the teller counter and went to the vault. They ordered a teller or bank manager to open the vault and pointed the gun at the tellers in the process. During the robbery of the Tempe Schools Federal Credit Union, the robbers stole over \$180,000 in federally insured funds and during the robbery of the Safeway Federal Credit Union they robbers stole over \$106,000 in federally insured funds. After each of the robberies the three men fled in the stolen vehicle to a location a few blocks away. They ditched the car and got into the car of a fourth man I

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who was waiting during there during the robbery. The four men then went back to Defendant McCreary's apartment where Defendants McCreary and Hunter divided the stolen money. The individuals from Los Angeles then traveled back to the Los Angeles area. The evidence at trial showed that the robberies were planned and orchestrated by Defendants Hunter and McCreary.

The defendants are being held after trial.

Defendants Hunter and McCreary, had been charged with violating Title 18 of the United States Code, Section 371, Conspiracy; Title 18 of the United States Code, Sections 2113(a) and (d), Armed Bank Robbery; and Title 18 of the United States Code, Section 924(c), Using, Carrying and Brandishing a Firearm in Commission of a Crime of Violence. The case was tried before United States District Court Judge Martone on June 7-22, 2005.

A conviction for Using, Carrying and Brandishing a Firearm in Commission of a Crime of Violence carries a maximum penalty of life in prison, a \$250,000 fine or both; Armed Bank Robbery carries a maximum penalty of 25 years, a \$250,000 fine or both; and Conspiracy carries a maximum penalty of 5 years, a \$250,000 fine or both. In determining an actual sentence, Judge Martone will consult the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines, which provide appropriate sentencing ranges. The judge, however, is not bound by those guidelines in determining a sentence.

The investigation leading to the guilty verdict was conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Tempe Police Department.

Sentencing is set before Judge Martone on September 27, 2005 at 2:00pm.

The prosecution was handled by Charles F. Hyder and Kimberly M. Hare, Assistant U.S. Attorneys, District of Arizona, Phoenix.

CASE NUMBER: CR-04-313-PHX-FJM
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